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Office of The Director

Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, 20755

22 March 1967

The Honorable Richard Helms  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Dick:

Attached is a copy of Dr. Tordella's introductory remarks  
to the Land Panel of recent date.

I send them to you for your personal information, because  
they so aptly express my own views and fully state Agency  
policy.

Faithfully yours,

*Marshall S. Carter*

MARSHALL S. CARTER  
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army  
Director

Incl.  
a/s

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NSA review completed

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Introductory Remarks by Dr. L. W. Tordella,  
Deputy Director, National Security Agency,  
to the Land Panel of the  
President's Scientific Advisory Board

16 March 1967

ABM/AES Collection and Processing Effort of NSA

My purpose is to introduce the NSA input to your deliberations.

Ray Potts will discuss processing--described largely in terms of present capabilities and present systems inasmuch as we know essentially only the orbit of the collection package whereas the detailed working of the birds is still to be determined and precisely delineated. I would, however, like to make several points.

NSA wants to be, in fact already is and intends to continue to be, an active participant in all of the technical discussions which lead up to the final systems. We are eager to assume our nationally assigned responsibilities in the areas of collection, management, and processing which would be entailed in the new system or systems which are selected. We

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functions. These sites already possess secure communications in any required amount, have adequate logistic support capable even of expansion and would require minimum construction and that only for the antenna and preliminary ground processing electronics equipments. In this position I have been assured that we have the full and enthusiastic support of DDRE

In expressing this position at this stage of your considerations it is obvious that we might have certain "selfish" interests to serve:

- (1) We know from past experience that we must participate actively and full-time in partnership with the designers of the system finally selected in order to ensure that the collected material is put into and transponded in a reasonably processible form.
- (2) We must ensure that the plans and the funds for the bird or birds include the necessary add-on money for

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the ground sites collection and operations building and the dishes, computers, etc., at those sites. Simply put, we hope that there will be a package embodying necessary hardware, site construction, and contractor personnel, including the ground-site requirements and facilities.

- (3) We realize that the overseas geography available for intercept is diminishing and can only continue to do so. We see in the systems of the sort discussed here today a means of substantially countering this loss. From them we would anticipate not only ABM materials but a wealth of other SIGINT data, much of which is not today available.

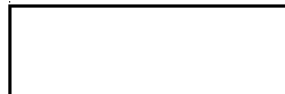
As in all other aspects of the SIGINT process we consider that NSA must participate fully from the generation, receipt, and evaluation of the requirement and the methods of meeting it, be deeply involved in the tasking of the collection device and the control of the ground-site collection and processing, and must do or assign the analysis and reporting. Finally, we feel we have something to offer in the analytic evaluation done to determine the extent to which the requirement has been satisfied. We are already involved in this "womb-to-tomb" effort and intend to continue to utilize the best of the NSA technical competence and know-how in these projects.

Ray Potts will explain one aspect of this competence, that of processing as you have requested and in the context of systems operating today. From that you may be able to extrapolate to one of the possibly more exotic systems now under consideration.

*Louis W. Fordella*

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I do not propose to show this to the Director  
unless you believe it worthwhile.



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FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
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